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About Us

Mission Statement:
The Mayor’s Office of Partnerships and Grant Services’ (OPGS) mission is to enhance the capacity of District government agencies, community and faith-based organizations, and nonprofits to identify, apply, and secure resources that advance the Mayor’s top public policy priorities.

Establishment: There is hereby established, within the Executive Office of the Mayor, the Office of Partnerships and Grant Services (“OPGS”). Except as provided in section II (b) of Mayor’s Order 2011-170 dated October 5, 2011, OPGS is the only entity that has the authority to solicit, review, receive and approve donations to the District government. Furthermore, OPGS is hereby established to serve as the District government’s grants clearinghouse in order to effective administer mandatory policies and procedures that govern the solicitation of competitive grant funds among District agency grant seekers and their prospective grantees and/or sub-grantees.

The Mission and Objectives of OPGS are to:

- Oversee the planning and execution of competitive grant funding request from district agencies to federal, foundation and private sector grantors
- Provide capacity-building training and technical assistance to district agencies and nonprofits in identifying, applying and managing potential and existing competitive grants funds and related in-kind resources
- Implement and enforce mandatory policies and procedures pursuant to the Rules of Conduct Governing Donations Made to the District Government (Mayor’s Memorandum 2015-001, dated August 21, 2015), and any successor Mayor’s Memorandum on the same subject, including the solicitation, acceptance and use of private donations
- Facilitate the establishment of collaborative philanthropic relationships or partnerships with private, public, nonprofit and individual donors to advance the Mayor’s public policy priorities.

The John A. Wilson Building, the District of Columbia City Hall
The Staff of OPGS:
Fiscal Year 2015

Lafayette Barnes, Director
Pat Henry, Deputy Director
Marcel Guy, Donations Manager
Eudon Barnard, CSOSA/Project Empowerment (Intern)
Terron McAbee, District Leadership Program Fellow
Michael Benjamin, Collaboration Manager (Volunteer)
Myrna Byrd, Family Matters, Inc. (Intern)
Clara Fryer, District Leadership Program Fellow
John Duckworth, CSOSO/Project Empowerment (Intern)
Tiara Shelton, Howard University School of Social Work Fellow
Grant Services
⇒ 215 State Single Point of Contact (SPOC) applications valued at $403M were approved for applicable federal grant submissions
⇒ 431 competitive grant announcements valued at $4.4B were posted in the Funding Alert

Capacity Building
⇒ 160 participants attended 15th Annual Public Private Partnership Conference
⇒ 356 participants attended OPGS’ workshops and trainings

Donations
⇒ 409 donations applications were processed of which 380 applications valued at $17M were approved
⇒ Nearly $12M in authorized donations were received by DCPS

Website Customers
⇒ 31,480 visitors (users) came to OPGS’ website including 16,502 new visitors
⇒ 9,894 grant seekers subscribed to receive the Weekly Funding Alert published by OPGS

Website Traffic
In FY 2015 the OPGS website received 31,480 visitors who made 47,982 visits, and 134,908 page views of which 54,594 were of grant related content.
Program Areas
Grant Services

**OPGS serves as the Government's Grants Central Clearinghouse House for information and support related to the District’s competitive grant opportunities.**

*We do this by:*

**Training:** Grant seekers (in District government and nonprofits) on grant search processes and grant application basics.

**Disseminating:** During FY 2015 OPGS posted 431 Grant opportunities with total potential award amounts of almost $4.4 billion. In addition, OPGS also distributes federal and local Notices of Funding Availability (NOFAs) through the OPGS website.

**Researching:** Each day, OPGS staff research competitive federal and foundation funding opportunities for which District Government agencies, non-profits and faith based organizations are eligible. In FY 2015, of the total 431 announcements posted in the Weekly Funding Alert 152 were foundation, 189 federal, and 90 district government competitive grant opportunities. In addition to compiling research for the weekly Funding Alert, OPGS staff also identifies and posts new competitive federal and foundation grant opportunities in the Grants Information Data System (GIDS).

**Maintaining:** OPGS, in conjunction with the Office of the Chief Technology Officer (OCTO), maintains a public website with a wide variety of easy to use information.

**Serving:** Executive Order 12372, "Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs," established a national program that encourages coordination between federal agencies, states and local governments. This program provides opportunities for local units of government to learn about and comment on selected projects affecting their jurisdictions. OPGS serves as State Single Point of Contact (SPOC) for all federal grant programs covered by Executive Order 12372.

*OPGS Grant Information Resource Center (GIRC) Coordinator assists visitors with grant applications inside of OPGS GIRC located at One Judiciary Square, Suite 707N.*
The Office of Partnerships and Grant Services (OPGS) serves as the District’s State Single Point of Contact (SPOC) pursuant to Executive Order 12372, "Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs."

Executive Order 12372 established a national program that encourages coordination between federal agencies, states and local governments. This program provides opportunities for local units of government to learn about and comment on selected projects affecting their jurisdictions. The District government SPOC procedures apply to all applications for federal funding that: fall under the purview of Executive Order 12372; and will provide services to the District of Columbia.

At the Federal level, the State Single Point of Contact Program is administered by the Office of Management and Budget.
In FY 2015, OPGS published 51 editions of the weekly Funding Alert. The Funding Alert highlights a variety of competitive grant opportunities available for District government agencies, non-profits and faith based organizations. In FY 2015, OPGS published $4,366,152,513 in District, Federal and Foundation grant opportunities.
Program Areas
Capacity Building

OPGS provides training and support for 501(c) 3 nonprofits, community-based organizations, District-based government agencies, and faith-based organizations. Beneficiaries of our services learn program and grant development and management skills.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OPGS Capacity Building Activities</th>
<th>Number of Participants</th>
<th>Date</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Crowdfunding Workshop</td>
<td>65</td>
<td>Dec. 15, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Completing the IRS 1023 for Nonprofit Tax Exempt Status</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Feb. 5, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grant Writing Workshop/CJCC</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>March 30, April 1-2, 2015</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eight-Week Intensive Grant Proposal Writing Course</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>May 12-June 30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doing Business with District Government Grantmakers</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>April 21, 2015</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
FY15 Sample of Capacity Building Events

OPGS, in collaboration with the MAGI Group, LLC, conducted an 8 Week Grant Proposal Writing Course for local government and nonprofit officials at One Judiciary Square Building May 12 - June 30, 2015.

Local nonprofit leaders completed OPGS DC-Only Investment Crowdfunding Forum on December 15, 2014 R.I.S.E. Demonstration Center (2730 Martin Luther King Jr Ave SE, Washington, DC 20032).

OPGS staff briefed grant writing workshop participants on best practices when looking for grants at One Judiciary Square Building on November 5, 2015.

OPGS hosted Doing Business with DC Government training on April 21, 2015 at Charles Sumner School (17th and M St., NW).
“The Nonprofit Sector Significance: A Pathway to the Middle Class”

On September 28, 2015, the Office of Partnerships and Grant Service, in collaboration with the Center for Nonprofit Advancement, held the 15th Annual Public Private Conference on Monday, September 28, 2015 from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Kellogg Conference Center at Gallaudet University, 800 Florida Ave NE, Washington, DC 20002. The conference theme focused on the significance of the nonprofit sector as a major employer that according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics represents the highest percent 26.6% on nonprofit employment by State in the country followed by New York at 18.1% in 2012. The District’s nonprofit sector is often viewed as a service provider seeking funding rather than a major sustainable employer whose employees are well positioned to succeed on the Pathway to the Middle Class.
The Office of Partnerships and Grant Services administers the donation solicitation management process for District agencies, departments, and offices including DCPS, that are subject to the Rules of Conduct Governing Donations to the District Government (Mayor’s Memorandum 2015-001, dated August 21, 2015).

We do this by:

**Reviewing** all donation solicitation applications and approve as appropriate.

**Preparing** quarterly donation reports and publish them on OPGS’ website and in the DC registry.

**Providing** donation management training to District government employees.

Feed the Children partnered with Firstbook to donate 1.5 million worth of books, roughly 120,000 books to be distributed to every school in DC.

DPR/DGS renovation of Stead Park (1625 P St. NW, Washington DC) donated by the Friends of Stead Park valued at $208,500.00.
The District of Columbia government is responsible for providing essential services to District residents. In addition to local appropriated funds and public and private grants, the District relies upon private donations to support its government functions and programs.

**Key:**
- AAD—Application to Approve Donation
- OFT—Office of Finance and Treasury
- OPGS—Office of Partnerships and Grant Services
- MOLC—Mayor Office of Legal Counsel
Program Services
Donations
Statistics:

The number of approved online donations applications has increased from 367 in FY 2014 to 409 applications in FY 2015. In FY 2015, OPGS approved the acceptance of $17,384,279.59 in donations of which $961,227.88 represented financial contributions and $16,423,051.71 were in-kind.

DCPS continues to be the largest recipient among DC Agencies that received donations approved by OPGS ($11,820,617.00), representing approximately 65% of all the donations received FY 2015. (Please see figure 2)

The Office of the Deputy Mayor for Education (DME) received many consulting and programmatic services in 2015, valued at $2,550,000.00, followed by DHS and OSSE which emerged among the top five. DPR still remains in the top five.
OPGS Funding Facts:

- From FY 2011 to FY 2014, the Government received on average $10 million donations each year. However, in FY 2015 OPGS authorized a 7.3 million increase in the Mayor Bowser Administration.

- OPGS helped to update and publish the New Mayor’s Memorandum governing donations in the District (2015-001, dated on August 21, 2015).

- Additionally, OPGS issued 359 Thank You letters to donors and 269 Certificates of Training to DC employees.
OPGS staff held four training sessions for D.C. agencies and D.C. Public Schools staff to better acquaint them with the District government’s donations process in FY2015. Each training session provided a step-by-step account of OPGS’ online donations management system, the OAG’s legal sufficiency review of donation requests, the completion of all donation agreements, the OCFO’s procedures for depositing financial contributions, and several donation training scenarios.

### Training Attendance Data

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of training</th>
<th>Date of Training</th>
<th>Number of Participants</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>City wide Donation Management Training</td>
<td>March 3, 2015</td>
<td>109</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Donation Management Training</td>
<td>April 5, 2015</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DCPS Business Manager Training</td>
<td>Sept 8-11, 2015</td>
<td>41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DCPS Business Manager Training</td>
<td>Sept 14-18, 2015</td>
<td>72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>269</strong></td>
<td></td>
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*OPGS held the first Donation Management Training on March 3, 2015 at the Judiciary Square Building (441 4th Street NW, Room 1107)*

*Office of Partnerships and Grants services held a Donations Management Training on May 5, 2015.*
Looking Forward to FY 2016

OPGS Plans the following Initiatives for FY 2016:

1. Working with the OCFO and OCA to maximize federal grant IDCR revenues;

2. Exploring ways to partner with District nonprofit employers and workforce development providers to promote the sector as a major employer in the District;

1. Coordinating the reestablishment the District’s Grants Planning Council; and

2. Augmenting support to encourage more District agencies to participate in the donation process.

OPGS has adopted the following Goals for FY 2016:

- To Build Relations with the Funding Community, and to Forge Other Partnerships in the District, that Boost Private Support for Key Initiatives, such as Providing Pathways to the Middle Class.

- Establish uniform guidelines called the DC City-Wide Grants Manual and Sourcebook;

- Ensure that all District Agencies have a Designated Donations Manager who is Trained on the Benefits and Use of the Donations Process

- Publish a White Paper on the Significance of the District’s Nonprofit Sector as a Major Employer.
GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
Office of Partnerships and Grant Services

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